

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
April 19, 2007
9:30 a.m.
South Congregational Church

Call the meeting to order

Chairman Austin chaired the meeting and called it to order at 9:30 a.m.

Adoption of the minutes and handouts

John Shaw and Ed Lescoe, seconded by, made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 22, 2007 meeting.

Chief Austin reviewed the meeting handouts.

Federal Liaison Report

John Rossi reported on a situational awareness report from FEMA regarding Region 1 after the Nor'easter. He said the congressional delegation is working with FEMA to see if Region 1 could be considered for a disaster declaration.

He also reported that the Fire Act application period closes on May 4th.

State Liaison Report

Tom Gavaghan provided a written report, summarizing Region 3 DEMHS activities over the last month. They included a registration update for the May 1st Emergency Management Symposium, a review of the flooding issues from last weekend's storm, and a reminder that municipal emergency operations plans need to be updated before the end of May.

Unfinished Business

Emer. Mgt. And Homeland Security Council report of 4-12-07 – Chief Austin reported on the status of the FY03, FY04, and FY05 grants, including the percentages of spent and obligated funds. He also reported that the Statewide Citizen Corps Council is moving forward with the planning of their 2nd annual conference, which will be held at the end of October.

Training Coordination Project Report – Dan Scace, CRCOG Homeland Security Training Coordinator, reported on the ongoing NIMS training and reviewed the FY07 NIMS requirements and matrix (both posted on the CRCOG website). He also reported on the development of an EMS training program.

CRCOG HS Funded Projects Update – Cheryl Assis reported that all of the FY 04 funds have been obligated/expended and the reporting and applicable deadlines for DEMHS met. She stated that the Salamander equipment has arrived and training on it will be held. She also reported on the recent Firehouse demonstration for the CAPTAIN Fire project and stated that the forms to enroll in the project are due at the end of the week. Lastly, she stated that Rick Tardif, the leader for the Reverse Notification project, is working on having the phone equipment installed in the

host towns and will email the municipal contacts to let them know when the next informational session will be held.

Regional Planner Report – Carmine Centrella reported on work completed on the Regional Shelter and Evacuation Guide and stated that at the CCM May 1st Conference Regional Planners will brief attendees on it. He also stated that the Universal Access Shelter guidance has been finalized and will also be available at the May 1st Conference.

Announcement of New Positions – Dr. Checko announced that Bruce Lockwood is the new Public Health Emergency Response Coordinator at the Bristol Burlington Health District. Adam Libros is the Acting Emergency Management Director in Canton.

Report of Standing Committees

R-ESF-2 Communications – Keith Victor reported on recent additions to the RID team and stated that the team is meeting about once a month for training. He also reported on the SAFECOM Conference he attended.

R-ESF-4 Firefighting – Chief Whalen reported on recent activities of the incident management team. He also said that training programs on how to use the Salamander system will be scheduled for interested fire departments. Lastly, he stated that the Capitol Region Fire Chiefs Association website is up and running at www.crfa.com

R-ESF-5 Emergency Management – (*Shelter Exercise in West Hartford on May 26-27*) – Chief Austin stated that this thirty-six hour shelter exercise begins on Saturday morning. Information on the exercise can be found at www.crcog.org

R-ESF 6 Mass Care – Chief Austin stated that Don Janelle is the project officer for the Government Emergency Telecommunication Service (GETS) card, which has the ability to override the phone system.

R-ESF-8 Public Health and Medical Services (all section update)– John Shaw reported on the EMS training, currently in development. He also stated that on May 2nd ESF-8 will present a panel on community-based medical surge capability.

As Katherine McCormack was at a MRC conference in Providence, Anthony Mormino reported on MRC activities, including the strategic plan and the database for membership information.

Chief Austin reported on a support letter for MMRS to Congressman Price and Congressman Rogers.

R-ESF-11 Animal Protection – Dr. Goldman reported that the National Response Plan is being revised to integrate animal issues. He also reported that House Bill 5186, An Act Concerning the Evacuation of Pets and Service Animals, passed in the House and is now in the Senate. Lastly, he stated that he attended an agricultural emergency response training in Alabama and hopes to pass the knowledge he learned onto ESF-11 volunteers.

R-ESF-19 Special Needs Management – Jim Battaglio reported on the Special Needs training that will take place during the months of May and June. He referred to an information sheet and enrollment form distributed as part of the meeting materials.

Stephen Thal reported on an ambulance policy for service animals, also part of the meeting materials, and asked that members review policies within their towns to ensure that service animals are able to accompany their masters in an ambulance.

ESF 20 Disaster Interfaith Services - Reverend Pavignano reported that discussions have been held with numerous faith communities in Hartford communities and several are working with him on emergency shelter response.

New Business

ESF 21 Collegiate Support Services - Steve Caron of Saint Joseph's College announced the formal signing of a Memorandum of Understanding among several of the region's universities and CREPC. He stated that in the near future he might ask for assistance from CREPC members to aid in the development of this ESF. He also thanked John Shaw and Chief Austin for working with him on the MOU.

CREPC Leadership Awards – Chief Austin presented Dr. Checko and Dick Russell with framed leadership certificates for graduating from the CREPC leadership conference series. The graduating class consisted of approximately thirty CREPC members.

Cheryl Assis presented Chief Austin with a framed certificate of excellence for developing and implementing the leadership curriculum and conferences.

Guest Speaker

Strategic Plan for 2007 Presentation – Chief Austin gave a powerpoint presentation on CREPC's 3rd Strategic Plan, which came out of the leadership series.

The presentation included the history of CREPC, where the organization is now, and where it is going.

Future CREPC Meetings – Chief Austin stated that the next CREPC meeting, scheduled for May 24th, will be held in the MRC Field Triage Unit.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.